



TOPS Working Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes - FINAL
Wednesday, September 7, 2016

Members Present: Jason Alwine, Lee Milner, Cathy Grossman, Joe Lavorini, Jeff Mohrmann, Silas Musick, Sarah Blakeslee, Becky Wegner

Members absent: Nancy Hobbs

Alternates Present: Jim Klever

Parks Board Liaisons Present: Scot Hume, Jason Rupinski, Charles Castle

Parks Board Liaisons Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Chris Lieber, Christi Mehew, Kurt Schroeder

.....
Jason Alwine brought the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Agenda Preview

Announcements

N/A

Approval of Minutes

Motion – to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2016 meeting:

- 1st – Sarah Blakeslee, 2nd – Cathy Grossman, Approved – Unanimous

Citizen Discussion

No citizen comments.

Action Items

1. Rock Island Trail – Numismatic Property Acquisition (Presented by Chris Lieber, Parks Development Manager)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: the urban trail system; a map of rock island trail – numismatic property; a map displaying all properties acquired on the rock island corridor with the remaining piece for acquisition consideration; area of the property, size of the warehouse and proposed location of the trail; legacy loop – phase 1; legacy loop project schedule; acquisition terms; additional considerations including the existing warehouse,

trail construction and ongoing maintenance.

- The property is a part of the Legacy Loop and the last piece to acquire of the Rock Island Trail. Staff is requesting the TOPS Working Committee approve the acquisition of the property.
- The project will require \$424,900 from the TOPS Trails account; however, funding necessary to complete the acquisition has already been appropriated from the TOPS Trails account for this purpose. No additional funding appropriation is necessary to complete the transaction.
- The American Numismatic Association currently occupies the property and is looking for a replacement property. The TOPS Program will provide up to \$25,000 to assist the Association with relocation costs.
- Trail construction costs are estimated at \$120,000 and the City has secured funding from the following sources: Great Outdoors Colorado Grant (GOCO), TOPS Trails Category and PPRTA. The 2017 CIP budget includes recommending additional TOPS funding for construction of the Rock Island Trail Corridor.
- The use of the warehouse that exists on the property does not have to be decided during this meeting; however alternatives can be discussed.
- The Parks Department would like to consider requesting proposals to see if the community is interested in the warehouse site. The property is zoned R5 and the challenge is access and parking for alternative reuse.
- Kim King (Recreation Administration Manager) stated Pool Operations and Westside Community Center are examples of facilities owned by the City but the City does not manage nor run the programs within the facility; however, maintenance for these facilities are the City's responsibility.
- This project will be ready for construction in January or February of 2017 with an anticipated closing date within 90 days.
- Susan Davies – Inquired if there is a chance this project will not get done. Chris Lieber responded if the Committee decides not to purchase this property, changes will be made to 2017 budget dollars that allocate for this project and construction dollars that are currently in the budget would be used to build other areas of the Rock Island Trail. This project has been in the queue and is the last piece to connect this trail.
- Jason Rupinski suggested that the terms include the purchase price and “up to \$25,000” to assist in relocation costs.
- Bill Koerner –Stated the City of Colorado Springs has waited a long time for this opportunity to acquire this property. Adaptive use is a great consideration and all options should be discussed before demolishing the building. He recommends the TOPS Working Committee approve this acquisition as it needs to happen from a strategic standpoint.

Motion: To approve of the acquisition of the Property, from the American Numismatic Association, in the amount of \$424,900 with TOPS Trails funds for the advancement of the Rock

Island Trail and the Legacy Loop Project and in addition, the TOPS Program will provide up to \$25,000 to assist the Association with relocation costs.

1st – Silas Musick, 2nd – Lee Milner, Approved – Unanimous

Presentations

2. Ethics Training (Presented by Britt Haley, City Attorney Division Chief)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: origin of city code of ethics; purpose of city code of ethics; why should you care; primary areas of concern – gifts and conflict of interest; gift exceptions; inappropriate hospitality or gifts; conflict of interest general rule; what is a conflict of interest; examples of conflicts of interest and what should you do; independent ethics commission; and the complaints procedure.

3. Ring the Peak GOCO Grant (Presented by Tilah Larson, Senior Grant Administrator and Bill Koerner, Trails and Open Space Coalition)

[Link to PowerPoint presentation](#)

The PowerPoint presentation included: GOCO's purpose; the planning grant application; Ring the Peak Trail background; economic benefits; the existing trail; trail gaps; planning grant objectives; Horsethief Park; Ring the Peak supporters which includes government, user groups, tourism and business; accomplishments to date; current trail constraints; a constraints map; bear creek watershed and the next steps.

- The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department proposes to sponsor a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Connect Initiative grant application, "Complete the Ring Planning Project" on behalf of the Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) and Friends of the Peak.
- The \$100,00 grant application will assist with engaging in a planning process to close a 8 to 12 mile gap in the Ring the Peak Trail on the southwest side of Pikes Peak. The grant includes a \$10,000 cash match from TOSC and Friends of the Peak and a \$15,000 in-kind match from partner organizations.
- The City would manage the project and funding with TOSC and Friends of the Peak as the primary partners leading the planning process.
- Lee Milner made a motion to amend the agenda to add an action item to support the grant application. No Committee member 2nd the motion to add an item to the agenda.
- Chris Lieber will convey to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board the TOPS Working Committee's support of this project.
- Jason Alwine, TOPS Working Committee Chair, will write a letter of support for this grant application to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and City Council.

Committee Business

4. TOPS Working Committee Pictures (Pictures taken by David Deitemeyer, Park Planner)

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn
1st – Cathy Grossman, 2nd – Jeff Mohrmann, Approved – Unanimous
- Motion to go into a Closed Executive Session
1st – Cathy Grossman, 2nd – Lee Milner, Approved – Unanimous

Closed Executive Session - Discussion pertaining to a property matter.

[Link to Handouts distributed during the meeting](#)